It has recently come to my attention that Sinclair Broadcasting is planning to use their many stations around the US as a venue for slanted propaganda in a concerted effort to affect the 2004 election for our nation's next president. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I am writing as a VERY concerned citizen.

Because Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, the company is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, there are more opportunities for these large companies to focus only on profit and in this case, on political agenda. I would much rather see news from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I appreciate this forum for having my opinions heard and I will be watching to see what actions you take on this matter.

Sincerely, Karrie Kohlhaas